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REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 4 April 1993 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit, enclosed herewith, the statement by the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, of 4 April 1993, on the session of the Assembly of the République serbe at Bileca (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 79 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIĆ
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/48/50.

ANNEX

Statement of 4 April 1993 by the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on the session of the Assembly of the République serbe at Bileca

At its meeting held on 4 April 1993, the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia considered the results of the session of the Assembly of the République serbe at Bileca, reactions on the adopted Declaration and the ever more frequent threats to tighten the existing and to impose new sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

The Government considers that the debate and the Declaration adopted at Bileca have confirmed that the Serbs in Bosnia and Herzegovina are determined to continue the peace process and that they are vitally interested in an early solution of contentious issues related to maps and in reaching a comprehensive, just and lasting political settlement of the crisis in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Government recalls that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has sought to bring about a peaceful solution of the crisis in Bosnia and Herzegovina ever since its beginning, on the basis of respect for legitimate interests of all three peoples and their consensus on the form of their life together. In that context, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has supported the Vance-Owen Plan as a useful basis for further negotiations aimed at achieving a consensus on the offered maps.

Proceeding from this, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia acted constructively at the Geneva and New York negotiations and, within the limits of its capabilities, influenced the Bosnian Serbs to render maximum cooperation.

According absolute priority to immediate and unconditional cessation of the military conflict, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia brokered successfully the conclusion of the last agreement on cease-fire in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the only such agreement which is still holding despite sporadic violations by the Muslim and Croat sides.

Assessing as the most important that the present cease-fire be maintained at any cost, which is of vital importance for a successful continuation of the peace process, the Government supports the proposal that a meeting of all three warring parties in the civil war be held in Sarajevo and that the meeting be attended, in an observer capacity, by the Chiefs of the General Staffs of the Army of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Croatia. The Government is convinced that the remaining contentious issues related to the proposed maps can be solved and that they should not put in jeopardy the peace process. To this effect, the Government accepts the appeal of the Assembly at Bileca to the international community to help organize bilateral meetings between warring parties and offers its hospitality and good offices for early direct negotiations between Bosnian Serbs and Bosnian Muslims, that is, between Bosnian Serbs and Bosnian Croats.

The Government calls on the Presidents of the United States of America and the Russian Federation, as well as on the other highest representatives of the

Group of Seven, not to bow to pressure aimed at escalating the crisis and to adopt a position at the Summit at Vancouver in favour of the continuation of peace efforts and negotiations. In doing so, the international community may count on the genuine and wholehearted support and cooperation of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Proceeding from the fact that, at the Geneva and New York negotiations, as well as on other occasions, the international community has explicitly recognized the fact that a civil and inter-ethnic war is being fought in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia resolutely condemns the intentions to tighten the existing and impose new sanctions and requests that the existing sanctions, imposed one-sidedly and unfairly against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, be lifted immediately.